

EFFECTIVE

April 1, 2022.

Subject(s)

1. FOM 915A, Child Welfare Continuum of Care- Program Requirements
2. FOM 915B, Child Welfare Continuum of Care- Funding and Payment Requirements.

**1) FOM 915A, CHILD
WELFARE
CONTINUUM OF
CARE- PROGRAM
REQUIREMENTS**

**Placement
Selection and
Standards**

To support the safety, permanency, and well-being of a child in foster care, placement decisions must take into consideration the child's safety, the trauma experienced by the child and family during the placement process, the continuity by placing the child with relatives in their community whenever possible and placing the child in the most family-like setting that will meet the child's needs, reducing the likelihood of future placement changes.

**Placement
Exception
Requests**

Caseworkers must complete a placement exception request (PER) when there is a need to waive placement standards to maintain sibling and caregiver bonds or to meet the medical, emotional, and psychological needs of children in care. PERs must be completed, reviewed, and approved in MiSACWIS.

Approval Path for Unlicensed Relatives

1. PAFC caseworker completes and routes the PER.
2. PAFC supervisor reviews and routes the PER.
3. PAFC director reviews and approves the PER.

Pre-Thirteen Placement Exception Requests Approval Path

1. PAFC caseworker completes and routes the PER.
2. PAFC supervisor reviews and routes the PER.
3. PAFC director reviews and routes the PER.
4. Consortium director reviews approves the PER.

Treatment Foster Care

Initial Referral Placement Exception Request Approval Path

When a child is referred to the Treatment Foster Care Program approval must be obtained through a PER. Documentation must be provided in the narrative of the PER to explain the need for treatment foster care and the services to be provided.

1. PAFC caseworker competes and routes the PER.
2. PAFC supervisor completes and routes the PER.
3. PAFC director completes and routes the PER.
4. Consortium director reviews and approves the PER.

Extension Placement Exception Request Approval Path

Approval for treatment foster care placements exceeding 12 months must be obtained through a PER. The following must be documented in the narrative of the PER to explain the reason the child requires placement beyond 12 months:

- Anticipated next placement.
- Expected discharge date.
- Current length of stay.
- Specific reasons for extension request.
- Services that have been provided to the child to date.
- Services to be provided to move towards discharge.

1. PAFC caseworker competes and routes the PER.
2. PAFC supervisor completes and routes the PER.
3. PAFC director completes and routes the PER.
4. Consortium director reviews and approves the PER.

One-to-One Supervision Placement Exception Request Approval Path

1. PAFC caseworker completes and routes the PER.
2. PAFC supervisor reviews and routes the PER.
3. PAFC director reviews and routes the PER.
4. Consortium director reviews and approves the PER.

***Court- Ordered Juvenile Detention Placement Exception
Request Approval Path***

1. PAFC caseworker completes and routes the PER.
2. PAFC supervisor completes and routes the PER.
3. PAFC director completes and routes the PER.
4. Consortium director reviews and approves the PER.

**Residential
Placement
Exception Request**

Placements Exceeding 12 Months

No child may receive intervention in a residential care program for 12 months or more without prior approval from the BSC director. The BSC director must approve residential placements that are 12 months or more from the date of the initial placement and every three months thereafter until the child's discharge from the residential care program.

1. PAFC caseworker completes and routes the PER.
2. PAFC supervisor reviews and routes the PER.
3. PAFC director reviews and routes the PER.
4. Consortium director reviews and approves the PER.
5. BSC director reviews and approves the PER.

***Facility Not Under Contract with MDHHS Placement Exception
Request Approval Path***

1. PAFC caseworker completes and routes the PER.
2. PAFC supervisor reviews and routes the PER.
3. PAFC director completes and routes the PER.
4. Consortium director reviews and routes the PER.
5. DCWL reviews and approves the PER.

**Other Placement
Exception
Requests**

For the following PERs see FOM 722-03E, Placement Exception Requests and Approvals:

- Approval path for siblings placed apart.
- 75-mile radius.

**Residential
Referral and
Admission
Procedures**

Referrals for residential services must be made to the consortium. The consortium or primary caseworker/agency must provide all required referral materials to the residential provider.

The consortium will make a referral to the Regional Placement Unit (RPU) for screening and referral for an independent assessment.

Placement of Abuse/Neglect Ward into a Juvenile Justice Residential Program Placement Exception Request Approval Path

1. PAFC caseworker completes and routes the PER.
2. PAFC supervisor reviews and routes the PER.
3. PAFC director reviews and routes the PER.
4. Consortium director reviews and routes the PER.
5. DCWL reviews and approves the PER.

Placement of a Dual Ward

Placement of a dual ward into a residential foster care-abuse/neglect program or juvenile justice residential care program requires approval through a PER.

1. PAFC caseworker completes and routes the PER.
2. PAFC supervisor reviews and routes the PER.
3. PAFC director reviews and routes the PER.
4. Consortium director reviews and routes the PER.
5. JJAU reviews and routes the PER.
6. DCWL reviews and approves the PER.

**Relative
Engagement and
Placement**

If a child must be removed from their home, preference must be given to placement with a relative. Due diligence must be exercised to identify and provide notice to all adult relatives that a related child is in foster care.

Educational Services

Every effort must be made to ensure that the educational needs of all children in foster care are met. Online education program exception requests must include documentation that the PAFC director has agreed with the decision.

Permanency Planning-PPFWR and APPLA

There is a continuum of legal permanency, with reunification being the most preferred permanency goal, followed by - in order of preference - adoption then guardianship. When legal permanency cannot be achieved Permanent Placement with a Fit and Willing Relative (PPFWR) and Another Planned Permanent Living Arrangement (APPLA) are goals that can provide documented, long-term, achievable, permanent plans for youth in foster care.

To achieve the permanency goal the PAFC director must submit the approved permanency plan packet to the care coordinator for final approval by the consortium director.

Reason: Funding model changed.

2) FOM 915B, CHILD WELFARE CONTINUUM OF CARE- FUNDING AND PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS SUBJECT

Funding and Payments

A global capitated rate will be paid to a consortium under a Child Welfare Continuum of Care contract with MDHHS. MDHHS will authorize payments to the consortium through EGrAMS.

Global Capitated Rate Authorization

Consortium case rate changed to global capitated rate.

Court- Supervised Juvenile Justice Youth

The county will be responsible for maintenance and/or case services when the assigned court probation officer has determined

a case service or placement need specific to rehabilitating the youth is necessary.

Youth in Transition (YIT) Program

The consortium must expend allocated funds in accordance with the grant agreement established by the Business Service Center (BSC). The consortium must submit payment requests to the MDHHS local office for processing.

The consortium is responsible for service authorization approvals.

The consortium is responsible for managing and tracking the YIT allocation. The consortium is responsible for documenting each expenditure and submitting a monthly record to the MDHHS local office.

Reason: Funding model changed.

**MANUAL
MAINTENANCE
INSTRUCTIONS**

Changed Items ...

[FOM 915A](#)
[FOM 915B](#)